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em · boss (em · boss · ing, em · boss · es

- 1. To mold or carve in relief: emboss a design on a coin.
- 2. To decorate with or as if with a raised design: *emboss* leather.
- 3. To adorn; decorate.
- 4. To cover with many protuberances; stud: "The whole buoy was embossed with barnacles" (Herman Melville).

[Middle English embosen, from Old French emboder: en-, in; see en-1 + bode, knob.]

em · boss'er n.

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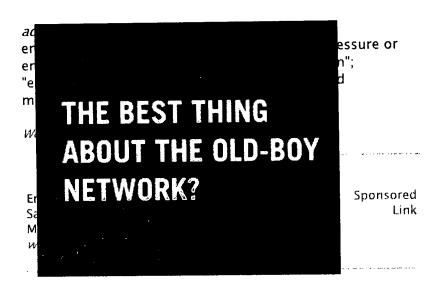
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embossed [im'bost] adjective

(of metal, leather etc) ornamented with a raised design

Example: an embossed silver spoon

يُزيّن بنقش بارز Arabic: يُزيّن بنقش

Chinese (Simplified): 刻有浮雕图案的

Chinese (Traditional): 刻有浮雕圖案的

Czech: reliéfní

Danish: præget

Dutch: met relia af

Estonian: kõrgreljeefis

kujundatud

Finnish: kohokuvioitu

French: travaillé en relief

German: Relief -...

Greek: ανάγλυφος

Korean: 도드라지게 한
Latvian: ar reljefu
rotājumu
Lithuanian: papuoštas
reljefiniu
ornamentu
Norwegian: med preget,
*stemplet
mønster;
relieffmønstret

Japanese: 打ち出した

Polish: wytłoczony

Portuguese (Brazil): trabalhado em

relevo

rtuguese (Portugal): gravado

Romanian: lucrat în relief

Russian: рельефный;

резной

Slovak: ozdobný

Slovenian: reliefen

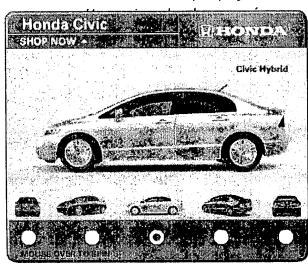
Spanish: grabado en

relieve, repujado

Swedish: prydd med

reliefer

Turkish: kabartma(lı)



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bi·sect (bī'sěkt', bī-sěkt') Pronunciation Key

v. bi-sect-ed, bi-sect-ing, bi-sects

v. *tr*.

To cut or divide into two parts, especially two equal parts.

v. intr.

To split; fork.

bi sec'tion n, bi sec'tion al adj, bi sec'tion al l

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bisect (bī'sěkt', bī-sěkt') Pronunciation Key
To cut or divide into two parts, especially two equal parts.

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Unperforated

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un·per·fo·rat·ed () (in-pûr'fə-rā'tĭd) Pronunciation Key

adj.

1. Lacking perforations.

2. Imperforate. Used of a postage stamp.

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AN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

he templication of:

PEMBERTON ET AL.

Serial No.:

10/734,461

Filed:

12/12/2003

For:

"Method and Device for Preventing Pets from Clawing Home

Furnishings"

Examiner:

Mark A. Osele

Art Unit:

1734

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF BONNIE PEMBERTON

- 1. My name is Bonnie Pemberton. I am the inventor of the invention disclosed in the above-noted application. I am over 21 years of age, of sound mind and willing and able to make the following Declaration.
- 2. I am a college graduate, having graduated from Texas Wesleyan University with a degree in business. While I have sold pet products for many years, I am not an expert in the field of plastics, adhesives or adhesive tapes. Moreover, I am not an expert in the field of packaging. I consider myself one of ordinary skill in the art when it comes to the subject matter of the invention disclosed in the application.
- 3. I have used the invention described in the application as the basis for my business, Fe-Lines, Inc. Fe-Lines, Inc. is a Texas corporation in good standing and has been in business since about 1981.
- 4. Fe-Lines, Inc. is in the business of selling pet products to distributors and the public. The pet products include many items, but specifically include the invention of the application. The company sells several embodiments of the invention including a "flat" version and a "corrugated" version. The "flat" version incorporates the elements of claim 1 of the patent application among others. The "corrugated" version incorporates the elements of claim 42 of the patent application among others. A copy of a picture of the "flat" version is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit A. A copy of a picture of the "corrugated" version of the invention is

attached as Exhibit B.

- 5. The invention has been a huge commercial success.
- 6. For example, Fe-Lines, Inc. began selling the claimed invention in 1996. At the outset, our sales figures began to climb rapidly from \$26,000 in 1996, to \$1 Million in 2005. This equates to a jump in sales of about 3,250 units per year to just over 203,000 per year. Since its inception, the company has sold over 1,500,000 packages of products incorporating the claimed invention.
- 7. I estimate the size of the market for those particular products to be about \$1,500,000.00 per year. Our percentage of that market or market share I estimate to be approximately 70-80%.
- 8. Over the years, our market share has grown. With the appearance of similar products, our market share has grown from 0% to almost 80% in less than 10 years.
- 9. The only prior art that is directly related to my invention that I am aware of is double sided tape offered by 3-M Company. The tape has a different construction. The tape includes a long coiled strip with a "non-sticky" layer on one side. It is very difficult to apply because it comes off the roll with a sticky side and is difficult to handle. It doubles back on itself and the adhesive side tends to come in contact with itself, snarling the application of the product. The advantages of the invention among others prevent this problem by providing bisected release layers which allow the product to be positioned with two non-sticky surfaces before the base layer and release layer are removed. The "two-part" release layer is also helpful in applying the product and is a huge advantage over the prior art.
- 10. In regards to the "flat embodiment", I have received praise from customers regarding the claimed features of the invention. Specifically, customers have expressed the advantage the combination of the transfer sheet, the strip and "two-part"/bisected release layers has in the ease of application of the invention to furniture and the like. Customers have also expressed adoration regarding the gap between the strips has in aiding in the removal of the strips from the transfer sheet. Additionally customers have disclosed their satisfaction regarding the adhesive's tack strength to easily cause an unpleasant sticking sensation. In my opinion, and based on comments that I received from customers, this claimed feature of the invention and others are the reason for its success.
- 11. In regards to the "corrugated embodiment" I have received acclaim from consumers regarding some of its features which include a strip (control sheet) with one surface being releasable adhered to a corrugated substrate and the other surface being adhered to a release layer. In my opinion, and based on comments that I received from customers, this claimed feature of the invention and others are the reason for its success. In my opinion, and based on comments that I received from customers, this claimed feature of the invention and others are the reason for its success.
- 12. Before my company launched a product embodying the elements of the claimed invention, it was relatively inexperienced in the market, and, because of the features of the invention has achieved a large market share.

- 13. The products sold by Fe-Lines, which incorporate the claimed invention have been the subject of industry recognition and awards. At various trade shows, including the Editors Choice Award from Cat Fancy Magazine in 1997 and 2003 (Exhibit H), the "Excellent" review from CATsumer Report in 1999, a formal "endorsement" from CATNIP! Newsletter in 1999 (Exhibit I), as well as a two-year "Seal of Approval" from the ASPCA in 2000 (Exhibit J). These awards specifically refer to the "Sticky Paws for Plants" and the "Sticky Paws for Furniture". The "Sticky Paws for Plants" is the "corrugated embodiment" of the invention covered by claim 42. The "Sticky Paws for Furniture" is the "flat embodiment" of the invention covered by claim 1.
- 14. I believe that the relatively quick rise in market share and sales is because of the elements of the claimed invention. For example, the company only spends a small fraction of its income on advertising.
- 15. Moreover, as the Patent Office can see, by looking at the product, we do not spend an inordinate amount of money on product presentation or packaging. I believe that the reason that customers buy the product is because of the advantages that the invention provides.
- 16. The Patent Office can see that both Exhibit A and Exhibit B (which are my company's products) are covered by and include the elements of claims 1 and 42, respectively.
- 17. There is also evidence of exact copying of the invention.
- 18. Attached to this Declaration is a copy of a photograph of a first competitor's product, which virtually identically copies one of the embodiments of the invention. See, Exhibit D. The dimensions of the product are similar. The substrate, the control layer and the bisected release layer are identical. The adhesive in the first competitor's product has been tested and determined to be nontoxic as claimed in my application for my invention. A copy of the test results showing the similarity in adhesive is shown in Exhibit K. This competitor is a larger better-established company than mine and has a large distribution network in place. Although I am unaware of the exact date that this competitor's product went into public use, I became aware of it well after I invented and began selling the devices as shown in Exhibits A & B and claimed in Patent Application Number 10/734,461.
- 19. There is additional evidence of copying because the label and instructions supplied with the competitive product are almost identical. For example, a copy of the instructions supplied to the customer by my company with the inner package of the product is attached as Exhibit C. Exhibit E is a photocopy of the first competitor's instructions.
- 20. Attached to this Declaration is an internet web page printout showing a second competitor's product, which also virtually copies the flat embodiment of my invention. In this instance the dimensions of the product are similar and the substrate, control sheet and bisected release layers are identical to my invention. See, Exhibit F.
- 21. The second competitor closely copied the instructions of the Fe-Lines product. A copy of the instructions from this competitor's product is attached as Exhibit G. The second competitor also used packaging very similar to that used for the Fe-Lines product. See, Exhibits F, G.
- 22. The products incorporating the claimed invention have been recommended in award-

winning books, including:

Complete Kitten Care, by Amy D. Shojal, a nationally known authority on pet care and behavior, a spokesperson for Purince, and an award-winning author of more than a dozen nonfiction per books.

· Kittens for Dammier, by Dusty Reinbolt, a nationally known aninority on cat care and behavior, and an award-winning author and a regular contributor to the Whole Cat

Journal and City + Country Pets.

The Cat Fauciers' Association Complete Cat Book, by Mordecai Siegol, a pationally known, highly-regarded and widely published authority on pet care.

- Think Like A Cat. by Pam Johnson-Bennett, a Certified Animal Bohavior Consultant and clinical mamber of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants. She is the author of a number of award-winning and critically acciaimed books and one of the country's most well-known and popular experts on cat behavior.
- A copy of the entire packaging and display of the infringing device attached as Exhibit D is attached as Exhibit L.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

APPLICANT'S PRODUCT

EXHIBIT A



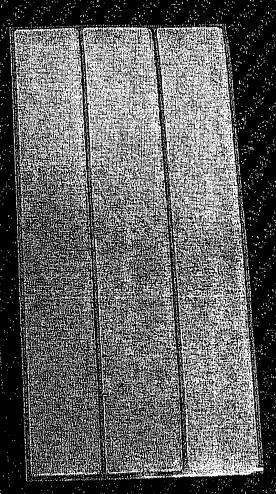
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Fransparent - applies directly to fabric!

français Espaial

LICENSE DE SOLUTION



APPLICANT'S PRODUCT

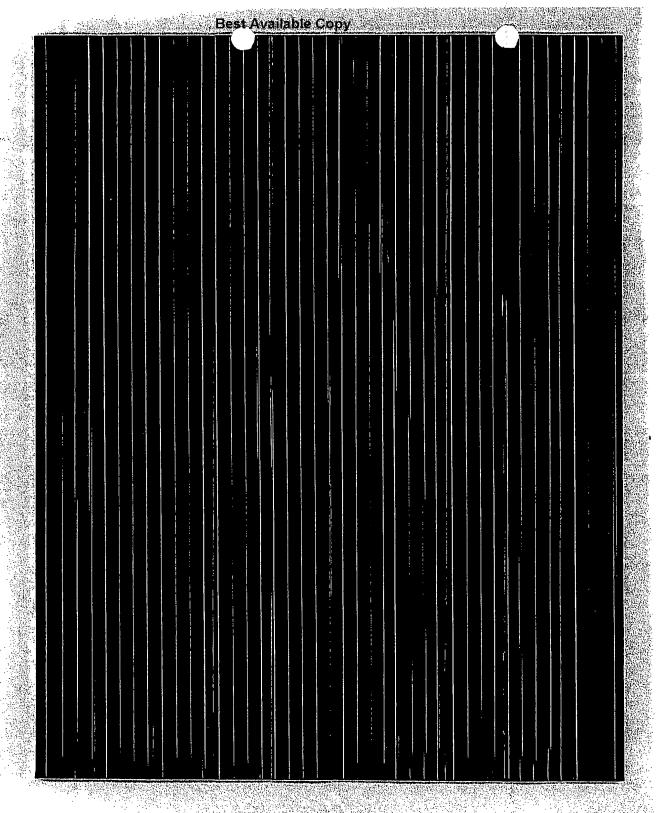
EXHIBIT B



- Safe!
- * Effective !
 - Non-toxic!

10 Strips per package





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APPLICANT'S PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS

EXHIBIT C

HOW to APPLY Sticky Paws®

There are three (3) 12"x2" Sticky Paws[®] strips on each brown base sheet. Each 2" strip has a thin cut down the middle to allow for *crack & peel* application.

Stept Remove single white Sticky Paws® strip from brown base sheet by gently peeling from the top down. sticky side of strip is now exposed underneath with white application "crack and poel" paper on top.

Wherever needed, on furniture, etc. (Pleuse see CAUTION below) Press firmly from top to bottom until strip has adhered to desired surface.

Step 58 When strip is in place, gently crack and peel the remaining layer of white paper off strip. Your transparent Sticky Paws® strip will now stay in position anywhere from weeks to months depending on the type of surface and position of the strips.

To remove, simply peel off by hand, or gently apply a damp cloth or steam. Replace as needed. Sticky Paws⁹ is non-toxic, water soluable, and won't leave a sticky residue.



Sticky Paws* may damage certain surfaces (including, without limitation, wood finishes, painted surfaces, leather, vinyl, und wallpaper), so ALWAYS TEST a small piece of Sticky Paws* on an inconspicuous area before applying. Sticky Paws* is incffective on surfaces treated with non-sitek and/or stain-repellent products, such as Scotchgard*. In light of these considerations, it is the user's sole responsibility to determine whether Sticky Paws* is fit for a particular application, and to remove Sticky Paws* promptly from a surface to which it will not adhere and properly discurd it. Sticky Paws* is not intended for animal or human consumption, and may cause injury or death. If ingestion occurs, seek immediate medical antention. In no event shall Fe-lines, Inc be responsible for any damage to furniture or any other applications, or for any bodily righer, or death to any person or unimal.

Cómo utilizar Sticky Paws®

Cada laminilla café incluye tres tiras Sticky Paws® de 12" X 2". Cada tira de 2" tiene una delgada incisura en el medio que permite doblar y despegar la tira al aplicarla.

Primer Paso: Desprenda gentilmente sus tiras blancas Sticky Paws® de su base color café. Hágalo desprendiendo la tira de arriba hacia abajo. El lado pegajoso de la tira queda expuesto y el color blanco apuntando hacia arriba.

Segundo Paso: Coloque las tiras pegándolas en el lugar donde se necesite, por ejemplo en la esquina de sus muebles. Apriete la tira furmemente de arriba hacia abajo hasta que ésta esté completamente adherida a la superfície deseada.

Tercer Paso: Después de que su tira esté en el lugar correcto, gentilmente pellizque y remueva la superficie blanca de la tira. Su tira transparente Sticky Paws® ahora está lista para trabajar y quedarse en esa posición por semanas o meses dependiendo del tipo de superficie y posición de la tira.

Para remover las tiras, simplemente quítelas con la mano, o use un trapo húmedo o vapor. Reemplace sus tiras según lo necesite. Las tiras Sticky Paws® son un producto no tóxico, soluble al agua, y que no deja un residuo pegajoso al removerse.

EXCLUSIÓN DE GARANTÍAS: Fe-Lines, Inc no ofrece ninguna garanda, expresa o implicita (incluidas, sin limitación alguna, las garandas de comerciabilidad y de idoneidad para un fin específico).

Stieky Panra* puede dafiar determinadas superficies (incluidos, a título enunciativo. Ios acabados de madera, las superficies pinadas, el cuero, el vinilo pequeño trozo de Stleky Panra* en una zona que pase desapercibida. Stleky pequeño trozo de Stleky Panra* en una zona que pase desapercibida. Stleky Panra* es ineficaz en las superficies trutadas con productos antiadherentes o quitamanchas, como por ejemplo Scotchgard^m. Teniendo esto en cuenta, es responsabilidad exclusiva del usuario determinar si Stleky Panra* es adecuado para una aplicación específica y retirar Stleky Panra* inmediatamente de una superficie a la que no se adherirá, saf como deshacerse de el apropiadamente. Stleky Panra* no esta concebido para el consumo por parte de animales o personas y puede causar lesiones o muerte. En caso de que se ingiera, consulte inmediatamenta un médico. Fe-Lines, Inc. no singiera, consulte inmediatamenta un médico. Fe-Lines, Inc. no cualquier orra splicación, ni de las lesiones o cualquier orra splicación, ni de las lesiones o

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muerte causadas a personas o animales.

Pour utiliser Sticky Paws®

Chaque folio marron contient trois bandes de Sticky Paws® 12"X 2". Chaque bande de 2" est pourvue d'une mince ligne de séparation au milieu. Pliez à cet endroit et pelez la bande.

Premier pas: Pelez les bandes blanches de Sticky Paws® du folio marron avec précaution en tirant de haut en bas. La face inférieure collante est maintenant découverte et la face blanche avec la ligne de pliure mince est en haut.

Deuxième pas: Appliquez les bandes sur les meubles à protéger avec la face collante en dessous. Appuyer dur de haut en bas jusqu'à ce que la bande adhère fermement à la surface concernée.

Troisième pas: Dès que la bande adhère bien, tirez sur le film de papier blanc du dessus pour l'enlever. Vous avez alors sur votre meuble une bande transparente de Sticky Paws® qui reste coltée pendant des semaines et des mois (suivant la constitution de la surface et la position de la bande).

Pour enlever la bande de Sticky Paws[®], tirez tout simplement à la main. Vous pouvez également frotter légèrement avec un chiffon humide ou utiliser la vapeur. "Bas les pattes" est un produit non toxique, soluble à l'eau, et il ne laisse aucune trace de colle.

RÉNONCIATIONS: Fe-lines, Inc n'offre aucune garantie, expresse ou implicite (incluyant, sans limitation, les garanties de la commerciabilité et de l'aptitude pour une détermination particulière).

Sticky Paws® peut endomnager certaines matières surfaces (incluyant, sans limitation, les surfaces de bois, les surfaces peintes, le cuir, le vinyle et les tapisseries). Pour cette raison, essayez toujours d'utiliser Stichy Paws® sur un peiti endroit invisible avant de l'utiliser. Stichy Paws® n'est pars d'inclus sur les Surfaces traités avec les produits anti-adhésives ou anti-tuches, comme Scotchgard™. Rendant compte de celles considérations, c'est la seule responsabilité de l'utilisateur à faire la détérmination si Stichy Paws® est convenable pour une application particulière et d'enlever Stichy Paws® est immédiatement d'une surface à laquelle it n'adhére pas et de le mettre au rebut de la manière approprie. Stichy Paws® n'est pus déstiné à la consommation animale ou humaine et peut causer des la limitale mont. En cas d'ingestion, consultez

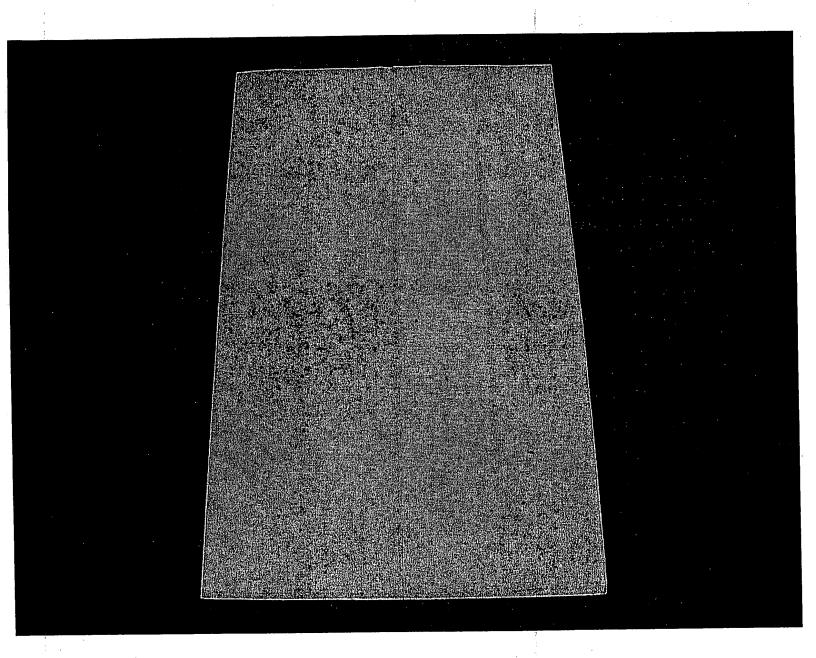
responsible en aucun cas d'endommages aux meubles ou n'importe quelles autres applications, ni en cas de blessures de corps ou mon à aucune personne ou animal.

immédiatement un médecin. Fe-lines, Inc ne seru



FIRST COMPETITOR'S PRODUCT

EXHIBIT D



FIRST COMPETITOR'S INSTRUCTIONS

EXHIBIT E



Use on counter tops, drapes, stereo speakers, & more!

Abilities sucun dessis de compole, un les drap, suc les leur parteurs et plus.

Par accommodé pour les faire de la face de position de la face de



WAVA [] y i Mounted PAVAS AWA [] like the basa Chapes bands de l' con [] se contre pour permettre une application labels.

Step i - Remove individual PAWS AWAY strip from the base sheet by gently peeling it off from the cop down. The study side of strip is now exposed on the bottom with the glossy "Crack & Peel" on top.

Étape / - Enfever les bandes individuelles PAWS AWAY" de la fesille de base en la tirant doucement. Le côcé collant de la bande est maintenant exposé vers le bas avec la côcé ciré déjà coupé vers la haut.



Step 2 - Position strips sticky side down wherever needed. Please see CAUTION below. Press the "PAWS AWAY" strips firmly from top to bottom until strip has adhered to the desired surface.

Étape 2 - Positionner le côté collant à l'endroit voulu. Lire la section PRECALTIONS plus bas. Appuyer sur la bande PAWS AWAY fermement de haus en bas jusqu' à ce que la bande sofière blen sur la curiace désirée.



Step 3 - Gently "Crack & Peel" the remaining tayer of goasy paper off the strip once it is in place. Your transparent PAWS AWAY strip will now say in position anywhere from weeks to monaths depending on the type of surface and position of the strips.

Étipe 3 - Une fois que la bande est bien en place, décolier doucement le popier ciré. La bande transparente PAWS AWAY tiendra en place n'emporae où de platiteurs avenimes à plutieurs mois dépendant du type de surface et de la position de la bande.



TO REMOVE PAWS AWAY STRIPS - Simply peel off or gently apply a damp cloth or a little steam. The strips are water soluble non-toxic and will not leave a sticky residue.

POUR ENLEYER (INE BANDE PAWS AWAY - décodier en tinant doucement ou appliquer un linge humide ou un peu de vapeur. Les bandes sons solibiles à l'eau et nomocriques. Elles ne laisseront auton résidus collent.

Ne Dégriffez Pasi S.V.P., issz-en plus à ce sujet www.pawproject.org

CAJITION: PNWS AWAY may damage cerain surfaces so ALWAYS TEST A SHALL PIECE OF PNWS AWAY in an inconspicuous area before applying PNWS AWAY will not work on understreamed with mon-stick and/or stain repellent products such as Societypard R. Therefore, it is the user's responsible to the staining whether PNWS AWAY will be for a specific use. Netter Cosmic Pie Products nor its resident will be responsible for any damage on farristors or other surfaces caused by applying PAWS AWAY to it.

PRÉCAJITIONS: PNMS AWAY pout endommager certaines surfaces, not it as the important of TOUJOURS ESSAPE UN PETIT MORCEAD DE PNMS AWAY as on endroit peus apparent avant lapplication. PNMS AWAY of collers pas ser une surface traities nec un amb-disheld etion un restrement and-caches ted que Societypard P. Pro consiperar, it et de la responsibilité éto un restrement amb-disheld etion in restrement amb caches ted que Societypard P. Pro consiperar, it et de la responsabilité de la responsabilité de la responsabilité de la responsabilité des dommages lasts sux meadles ou autres surfaces à cause de fundassion de PNMS AWAY.



SECOND COMPETITOR'S PRODUCT

EXHIBIT F

The UK's Premier Pest Control Saluti

Post Control By Mall Order - Dolivered Straight To Your Door!

HDME | CONTACT | FADS

Home > Cats and Dogs > Slicky Claws (12 Strips Per Pack)

(12 STRIPS)

Price

£4.99

Add 1

Stock Statu Wani To Pay

Ants

Aphids/Other Insects

Cats and Dogs

Fleas

Flies

Electronic Fly Killers

Glue Board Fly

Killers

Mice

Moles

Mosquitoes

Moths

Rats

Slugs and Snails

Spiders

Vine Weevil

Wasps

Weeds

Woodlice

Simple and effective.

Completely harmless to both Cats and furniture.

Unobtrusive to the eye.

How It Works

stops pet cats from clawing and scratching in the home by using a specially designed transparent sticky strip.

Cats do not like sticky surfaces and will not scratch is placed. Completely and claw where harmless to the cat and to furniture.

Size

Each Strip 29 x 11cm

Stop Onto Low Dontroying Furniture!



< Back

TOP SE

Live Mouse



More

Ultrasonic Mc



More

Mole Repe

More

Ultrasonic Re



More

FOR AMERICAN SHOPPERS THIS PRODUCT IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR SALE INTO THE USA!

Fire Pits

Gas Barbecues

Patio Heaters

buy now pay later with



Pay Nothing For 6 Monthsi On Selected Lines

SECOND COMPETITOR'S PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS

EXHIBIT G

Protects Furniture, Curtains, Carpets, Hi-Fi Speakers etc. from Cats' Claws

INSTRUCTIONS:

Each base sheet has 2 strips. Strips. Each strip is covered with a top layer of paper which is cut down the middle.



Step One: Remove a strip from base sheet exposing the stocky under side uponor of peel of the top layer of paper of this stage;



Step Two: Position the strip wherever needed, on turniture, curtains etc. Press firmly until the strip has fully adhered;



Step Three: Carefully
peel for the top layer of
paper. The top
strip will now

stay in position from weeks to months.

To remove, simply peel off by hand or gently apply a damp cloth. Replace as needed.

is non-toxic and won't leave

is not recommended for wood finishes, painted surfaces, leather, vinyl or wallpaper.

AWARD

EXHIBIT H



AWARD

EXHIBIT I



February 19, 1999

Bonnie Pemberton, President FE-LINES, Inc.

Dear Ms Pemberton:

I ran an endorsement for <u>Sticky Paws</u> on page 8 of this winter edition of our newsletter. This is hardly big time - **CATNIP!** goes out to about 350 customer households - but at least it's a class publication with an attentive readership.

This was a completely spontaneous endorsement based on our experience with your product.

Sincerely,

AWARD

EXHIBIT J

ASPGA® Consumer Products News Release

For: Immediate Release Contact: The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals 424 East 92nd Street
New York, NY 10128 www.aspca.org

ASPCA® Seal of Approval Granted To Sticky Paws For Furniture® And Sticky Paws For Plants®

(February 1, 2000) New York - The ASPCA has recently issued its Seal of Approval to Fe-Line's Sticky Paws™ for Furniture and Sticky Paws™ for Plants.

Sticky PawsTM for Plants helps keep cats out of house and potted plants. These 2" x 12" brown corrugated plastic strips are sticky on one side and can be easily cut to size to surround the tree in the plant's pot. Sticky PawsTM for Plants are effective, waterproof and won't interfere with watering. Sticky PawsTM for Furniture stops cats for scratching furniture. These 2" x 12" transparent acrylic adhesive strips apply directly to furniture, drapes, stereo speakers, counter-tops and anywhere else cats should not be! StickyPawsTM is a safe and effective product that won't harm cats or furniture. It is water-soluble and won't leave a residue when removed.

3% of all sales of these products will directly benefit ASPCA national humane programs. For more information on these products, please contact Fe-Lines at (817) 926-3023 or 888-697-2873, or visit Fe-Line's website: www.stickypaws.com. Other recent Seal of Approval recipients also include Mymark's Pet Step™ pet ramp and Transoniq's Wodent Wheel™ for small animals. The 3-year old ASPCA Seal of Approval pet product evaluation program includes such leading manufacturers as Doskocil, Johnson Pet-Dor, Prestone, T.F.H/Nylabone and over 30 others.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was founded in 1866 as the first humane organization in the Western Hemisphere. Today, the ASPCA has over 475,000 members and donors, and continues to prevent cruelty and alleviate the pain, fear, and suffering of animals through nationwide education, awareness, legal and legislative programs. Additionally, The ASPCA operates a full service animal hospital, adoption facility, and Humane Law Enforcement Department in its New York City headquarters. For more information about the ASPCA, visit our web site at www.aspca.org.

TEST RESULTS

EXHIBIT K

Mr. Chris Ruben Fe-Lines, Inc.

SUBJECT:

Chemical analysis on several adhesive tapes and consulting on product as

requested by the above company.

Purchase Order Number

RECEIVED: 1. Sticky Paws for Furniture

3. Paws Off! (Roll)

4. Paws Away (Strips)

POLYMER IDENTIFICATION: ASTM D 3677-00

Instrument:

Perkin Elmer Spectrum BX Spectrometer

Resolution:

4.0

Number of Scans:

6

Method of Preparation:

Film Method

Sample Identification

Sticky Paws

Polymer Identification

Polyacrylate*

Paws Off

Paws Away

Styrene-isoprene-Styrene / Styrene-buardiene-Styrene

Poly(butyl acrylate)**

The Sticky Paws sample appears to be Poly(ethylhexyl acrylate)

** Best matches in our Polyacrylate libraries

Enclosed please find the infrared spectra of the samples.

Mr. Chris Ruben Fe-Lines, Inc. Project Number: Page 2

	THE RESERVE A WARRY A P. S. P.	ヘルコ といひ だりまりまりょうだり	ANNERTER V. (C.C./IVIS)
COLO CHIDANIA	CTOCRAPHY/	ひひろう うじむしょい	OMETRY (GC/MS)

Instrument:

Hewlett Packard HP6890 GC/MS

Method:

SOLEXT 42.M

· Column:

Bonded; poly (5% diphenyl/95% dimethylsiloxane)

Samples:

Sticky Paws

RESULTS

None of the extracts of the three tapes evaluated contained organic additives. contained polymer fragments. Enclosed are the chromatograms for reference.

COMMENTS

The following discussion is an attempt to answer questions submitted

Polymer fingerprints and identification were performed on six (6) different

are comprised of a The adhesive used in Sticky Paws family of adhesives identified as polyacrylates but appear to be different in the type of monomer used to produce the polyacrylates.

All the tapes contain FDA approved polymers and have been used as adhesives

for skin contact. The product life depends on the substrate that it is attached including such solid material characteristics as surface contact area, type of finish, surface tension, etc., if product life ends when the adhesive cannot be easily removed from the substrate.

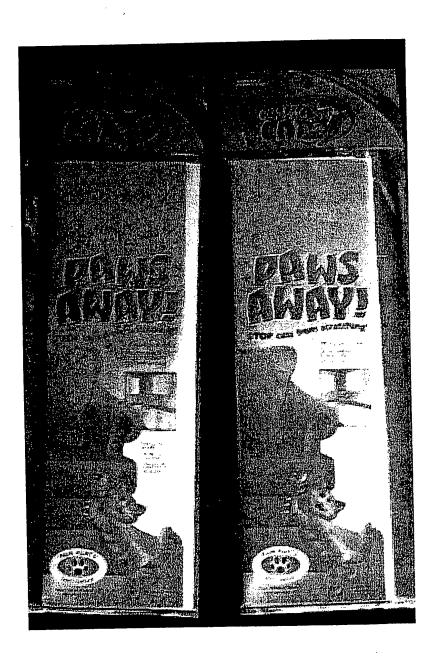
Mr. Chris Ruben Fe-Lines, Inc. Project Number: Page 3

COMMENTS - Continued

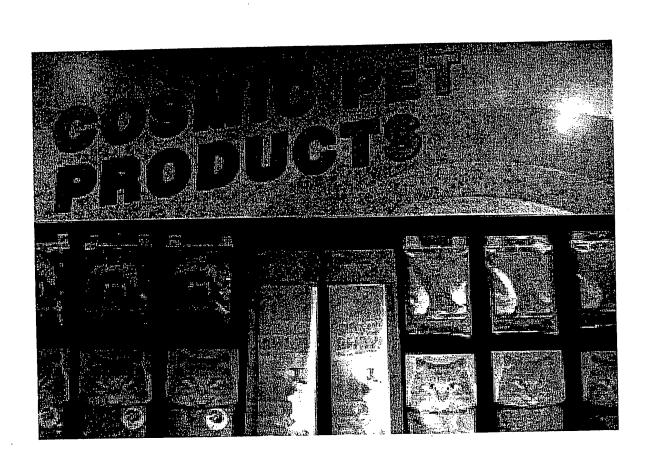
- The adhesive used in Sticky Paws is used in the Medical supplies field. FDA does not sanction products but dictates what testing and requirements are required for a specific application. The FDA regulates food and drugs and items that will come in contact with such or added to.
- The adhesives used in Sticky Paws and Paws Away are both polyacrylates; however, the monomers used to manufacture those adhesives appear to be different.
- We would suggest isopropanol or rubbing alcohol. It will not dissolve the adhesives but soften them up enough to be able to ball it up from solid substrates. One may have to carefully work at fabric substrates. Of course, one must first test a non-conspicuous portion of the substrate to determine if any damage may occur to the substrate.
- Same as above

FIRST COMPETITOR'S DISPLAY AND PACKAGING

EXHIBIT L

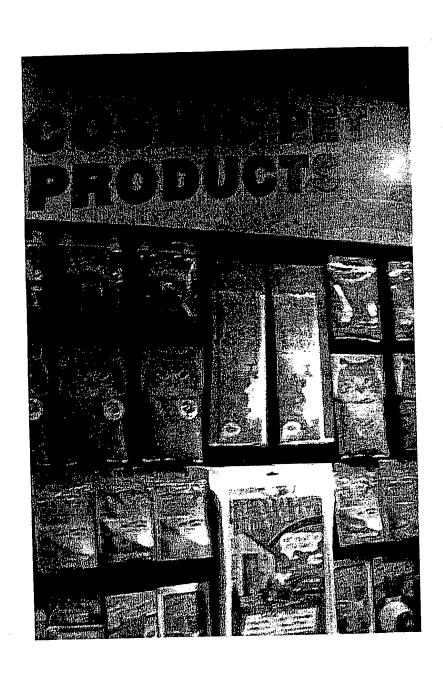


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

BONNIE PEMBERTON

Serial No.:

11/084,540

Filing Date:

03/18/2005

Title:

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PREVENTING PETS FROM

CLAWING HOME FURNISHINGS

Examiner:

Patricia L. Nordmeyer

Art Unit:

1772

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF CHRIS RUBEN

- 1. My name is Chris Ruben. I am over 21 years of age, of sound mind and willing and able to make the following Declaration.
- 2. I am the president and chief executive officer of CMR Creative Marketing Resources, Inc., a Texas corporation in good standing. The company is in the business of marketing pet products to distributors and consumers throughout the United States and abroad. Over a period of 8 years, my company has been involved in marketing products for Fe-Lines, Inc., including the invention of the application noted above.
- 3. While I have sold pet products for many years, I am not an expert in the filed of plastics, adhesives or adhesive tapes. Moreover, I am not an expert in the field of packaging. I consider myself one of ordinary skill in the art when it comes to the subject matter of the invention disclosed in the application.
- 4. The product has been immensely successful in the marketplace. It has grown from a market share of approximately zero in 1996 to a zenith to control a market share of approximately 80% of this product in the United States.
- 5. I have attended domestic and international trade shows at which the product of Fe-Lines incorporating the elements of the invention has been displayed. I have witnessed the presentation of the competing products in these same trade shows indicating that the product of the invention incorporating the elements of the invention and the competitor's products move in

the same channels of trade. Moreover, at least one of Fe-Lines' customers of the product incorporating the elements of the invention has purchased one of the competing products providing further evidence of the same customers and channels of trade.

- 6. Before competitors began copying the product, there was no product that incorporated the advantages of the claimed invention on the marketplace. Specifically, those claimed advantages include among others a bisected release layer, and other features such as a transfer sheet, a control sheet adjacent to the transfer sheet, a bisected release layer adjacent to the control sheet, and wherein the first release sheet and the second release sheet abut but do not overlap. The abutment provides the ability to peel one layer from the transfer sheet and apply it while leaving a non-sticky surface to help in handling. Moreover, the product is useful around "corners" of furniture where an unbisected release layer would not function at all.
- 7. Advantages contained within the corrugated embodiment of the product that are important to the success of the product includes a strip (control sheet) with one surface being releasable adhered to a corrugated substrate and the other surface being adhered to a release layer. Customers have expressed to me they have purchased and continue to use and be pleased with the invention disclosed in the corrugated embodiment because of the combination of the rigid corrugated substrate with a releasable adhere strip and the release layer.
- 8. In my experience, customers are extremely satisfied and pleased with the claimed features and function of the invention. For example, at trade shows, I have been directly approached by customers who have directly stated the combination of the transfer sheet, the strip and "two-part"/bisected release layers aids in the application of the invention to furniture and the like. Customers have also expressed satisfaction regarding the gap between the strips on the transfer sheet. Additionally customers have told me that they are pleased in the adhesive's ability to deter their pets' behavior because it causes an unpleasant sticking sensation when touched.
- Additionally, large-scale buyers of the product have commented that products incorporating the elements of the invention sell well because of its claimed features, including, but not limited to the bisected release layer, the combination of the transfer sheet, the strip and "two-part"/bisected release layer and the adhesives' ability to cause an unpleasant sticking sensation.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: 09 06 06

Chris Ruben

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PEMBERTON ET AL.

Serial No.:

10/734,461

Filed: -

12/12/2003

For:

"Method and Device for Preventing Pets from Clawing Home

Furnishings"

Examiner:

Mark A. Osele

Art Unit:

1734

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF BONNIE PEMBERTON

- 1. My name is Bonnie Pemberton and I make this declaration in support of the above noted United States Patent Application. I am over 21 years of age, of sound mind and willing and able to make the following Declaration and all facts recited are with my personal knowledge.
- 2. I have reviewed the Office Action of September 25, 2006. The examiner takes the position that my invention was a replacement of the prior art double sided tape offered by the 3M Company, and further implies my invention was merely a repackaging and remarketing of the 3M product. This is not correct. The 3M tape did not have the bisected release layer of my invention. Furthermore, the 3M tape was not completely bisected along an axis parallel to its length. The 3M tape was not provided with a base release sheet and a top release sheet. Also, the 3M tape was rolled and not provided flat or in strips as required by my invention. Therefore my invention was not a repackaging of the prior art but rather is substantially different from and a substantial improvement over the prior art 3M tape.
- 3. The examiner questions whether the market of the stated market share growth includes all double-sided adhesive tapes, including the rolled adhesive tape of 3M or only the double sided adhesive tapes marketed at cat owners for scratch prevention. The examiner implies that an important factor determining market success attributable to product improvements would be whether the double sided adhesive tape roll of 3M tape was sold in pet stores prior to 1996 and questions whether it was ever placed in a way to attract cat owners for its specific use as a cat deterrent. Presumably the examiner means that if the 3M double sided tape was not ever

marketed in a way to attract cat owners for its specific use as a cat deterrent, then the increase in sales of my invention is a result of marketing, packaging, and perhaps advertising instead of because of the features of my invention. But, there is no evidence of this position, it is merely speculation. There is evidence that double sided tape was known to cat owners--in fact the Examiner provided two separate articles in 1998 showing the uses of double sided tape. See, "Claws and All: Living With Your Cat, Your Furniture and Your Piece of Mind", HSUS News, p. 1-4 WWW.HSUS.ORG/CLAWS.HTML, 1996 and "Basic Training for Your Cat"; Perfect Paws, P. 1-2 WWW.PERFECTPAWS.COM/TRAM.HTML.1995 (cited by the Examiner Sept. 28, 1998). It is manifestly unfair to discount the drastic increase in sales of my invention because of speculation that a single 3M product was or was not marketed in a particular way. In the market of double sided adhesive tapes for pet scratch prevention, Fe-Lines, Inc.'s share of the market has grown from 0% to almost 80% in less than 10 years despite the company spending only a small fraction of its income on advertising. Fe-Lines, Inc.'s market share has grown even with the subsequent emergence of products similar in presentation and functionality to the claimed invention. I believe the relatively quick rise in market share is because of the elements of the claimed invention as opposed to the packaging, the elements of the claimed invention being a bisected release layer adjacent to a strip having adhesive surfaces on opposite sides adjacent to a planar transfer sheet. Also, there is evidence from the Declaration of Chris Ruben in the record that many customers have bought my invention because of these features. I have never had a customer tell me in all the years I have sold the product that they bought it because of the package or the way that we advertised it.

4. The examiner suggests that the ASPCA Seal of Approval was given in exchange for payment to the ASPCA. But this is not correct. The ASPCA scrutinizes pet related products to ensure claimed functionality and the safety of pets. Products submitted for the Seal of Approval are reviewed by a panel of ASPCA experts comprised of veterinarians, veterinary toxicologists, animal behaviorists, and animal science specialists nationally renowned in their scientific fields. The ASPCA award is only given after a product passes all tests for quality and safety. Therefore the "Seal of Approval" awarded by the ASPCA in 2000 is not a "quid pro quo" for payment. It is a bona fide and deserved award for my product incorporating my invention.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: 3/12/07

Bonnie Pemberton